



The E-Gobrecht

Liberty Seated
Collectors Club

2018 Volume 14, Issue 12

December 2018 (Whole #167)

Dues and Voting Time!

Yes, it is here again already. Another year has passed and it is time to renew your membership in the Liberty Seated Collectors Club. Additionally, it is time to vote for your favorite *Gobrecht Journal* article published in 2018 and to vote for the Liberty Seated Collectors Club officers for the two-year term 2019-2020.

In early November, *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #133 was published and mailed to all current members. Included with this issue was a one page dues renewal form, Ahwash Literary Award Ballot, and LSCC Officer Election Ballot. Please return that ballot and dues renewal per the instructions.

Kamal M. Ahwash Literary Award. This award is determined by popular vote of the membership and awarded yearly at the LSCC Annual Meeting. This is your chance to support the club's authors by voting for up to three of your favorite articles. The authors put a lot of time and effort into research and writing articles for your reading pleasure and this is your chance to support them in return. Take a few moments, consider the articles this past year, and make your vote count by submitting it.

LSCC Officer Elections. Every two years, the club's membership votes to elect the club's President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer. That time has come again. The current officers are running again for a third and final volunteer (i.e., unpaid) term. This is your chance to support them for all they do for the club. So vote today!

Dues Renewal. First off, I wish to thank all the multi-year paid members. Not only do you save yourself some time and effort, but you save the club from having to ask you to renew your membership. For all the yearly members, I ask that you pay your dues promptly (i.e., before January 1st) for a number of reasons. First, the club officers will have an accurate count for the membership strength for the upcoming year. Secondly, it will save time, effort, and club money to have to ask you renew (in most cases, multiple times!). Thirdly, once you renew your membership, you will continue to receive the club's printed publication, the *Gobrecht Journal*.

Please send in your ballots and dues today!

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The *E-Gobrecht* is an award winning informal electronic publication of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club (LSCC). The LSCC is a non-profit organization dedicated to the attributions of the Liberty Seated Coin series. The LSCC provides the information contained in this email newsletter from various sources free of charge as a general service to the membership and others with this numismatic interest. You do not have to be a LSCC member to benefit from this newsletter; subscription to the *E-Gobrecht* is available to anyone. All disclaimers are in effect as the completeness and/or accuracy of the information contained herein cannot be completely verified. Contact information is included on the last page.



SeatedFest II Coming to Baltimore!

At the Spring Whitman Baltimore Expo, the LSCC will be holding a major event that you will want to put on your calendar! SeatedFest II will be a Liberty Seated convention, with jaw-dropping exhibits and extensive educational programs, well beyond what is possible at

an LSCC regional meeting. **Save the dates, February 28—March 2, 2019.** This is an expansion on SeatedFest 2011, held in November of that year, when major collections of Liberty Seated coinage were on display. Below are two photos from SeatedFest 2011.



Coins and camaraderie at SeatedFest 2011 in Baltimore

Why you should come to SeatedFest II

Education. SeatedFest II consists of **four 1½-hour educational programs over two days**, Thursday and Friday. Our goal is to provide a wide range of educational opportunities for Liberty Seated collectors of all levels of experience, including material on all seven Liberty Seated series, half dimes through Trade dollars. One session each morning and afternoon, will provide unparalleled opportunity for learning in a short period of time, while still allowing plenty of time for the bourse floor – a perfect combination! So come to Baltimore for Thursday morning, as it all kicks off at 9:00 a.m.

The educational sessions will be **free of charge** to LSCC members and non-members alike, but **will require registration**. More on registration in next month's *E-Gobrecht*, along with the detailed agenda and times. LSCC Education Director John Frost is putting together a great program!

Unrivaled exhibits. On the bourse floor in our own LSCC area, we will have outstanding collections of all Liberty Seated series, with the owners available at the table for discussing the series and their collection. 20 cases of rare coins, with complete sets and some amazing Exonumia will be on display. In many instances, hand's-on examination is encouraged. Notable rarities planned to be at the show are the extremely rare 1870-S Liberty Seated dollar, and also the unique 1870-S half dime! Exhibit chairman Jeff Ball is finalizing the amazing set of exhibits.

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Camaraderie. Meet other collectors that share your interests. Meet those who have built leading collections of your favorite series. Network with LSCC members who are happy to share their experiences with you. Share your stories with others, while looking at a lot of very cool coins.

There will also be a club dinner and social event on Thursday evening (February 28th), right across the street from the Baltimore Convention Center. A great time will be had by all. LSCC Vice President Len Augsburger and Regional Program Director Dennis Fortier have found the perfect venue for our SeatedFest II club dinner and have made all of the arrangements.

Just Come!

Whether you are an experienced collector, specialist, novice, or even a generalist who is interested in discovering where we get our passion for Liberty Seated coinage, this event is for you. Stay tuned for the full set of details, which will be posted on our website (www.lsccweb.org) and in the January issue of the *E-Gobrecht*.

LSCC website: www.lsccweb.org

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Cracked, Shattered, and Terminal

by Benny Haimovitz, LSCC #2494

1863 Liberty Seated Quarter Briggs 2-B



The Philadelphia Mint struck over 191,000 Liberty Seated quarters dollars in 1863, continuing the downward trend in production at that facility through the end of the Civil War and even later.

Obverse 2 die shows minimal die cracks along the outer points of stars 10 to 13 with this one having an additional die crack along the base of all the date



numerals. Light die clash is observable in the field to the left of Miss Liberty's hand that rests on the top of the shield.



Reverse B displays much clearer diagnostic features. At the top of the die, cracks appear from the bottom of the D in UNITED through the entire STATES, across to OF and over to the base of the A in AMERICA where it then runs down to the top of

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the Eagle's right wing.

The bottom portion of the reverse has even more to tell about the die state. Die cracks appear at the rim below the lowest olive leaf and across the tops of all the letters on QUAR. An additional crack starts at the rim below the D, across OL and through all of the arrowheads, ending in the final A of AMERICA.



This particular reverse is probably in even a later die state than the Briggs description which does not include the significant die crack that comes in from the rim near the K-9 position, splitting through the UNI of UNITED before entering the Eagle's left wing. This crack also branches down through the tip of the Eagle's left wing before crossing all of the olive leaves and joining the lower die crack at the Q in QUARTER.

Diagnostics courtesy of Larry Briggs in his 1991 reference works, "The Comprehensive Encyclopedia of United States Liberty Seated Quarters" and images courtesy of ctr56 with this example graded as by PCGS as MS 62.

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Seated Shorts

THE DAVID LISOT VIDEO LIBRARY.

Newman Numismatic Portal Project Coordinator Len Augsburger provided the following report. The latest addition to the Newman Numismatic Portal is the David Lisot Video Library.

In 2017, David Lisot and the Newman Numismatic Portal concluded an agreement to make the David Lisot video library available via Newman Portal. This is a substantial archive, with over 1,800 videos from the mid-1980s to date. Lisot has tirelessly attended major coin shows for over 30 years and videotaped major presentations. This unique record, for many individuals in the numismatic field, likely represents the only video that exists. Newman Portal has processed 1,400 of these videos with the remainder to be delivered during the fourth quarter. These can be searched via the NNP advanced search page by entering “multimedia” as the content type and a search phrase under “research term.”□

Link to David Lisot Video Library on Newman Portal: <https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/multimediadetail/522852>.

[Editor: Many thanks to the E-Sylum for this notice. Look for many Liberty Seated topics in this library.]

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Auction News

by Craig Eberhart, LSCC #1348

The Collector's Auction by Scotsman, November 2, St. Louis. A few Liberty Seated coins were sold in this auction including one of my favorite coins, an 1840-O dime, and a circulated 1873-CC Trade dollar.

| | | | | | |
|---------|--------------|------|------|---------|--|
| 1840-O | dime | PCGS | XF45 | \$546. | |
| 1873-CC | Trade dollar | PCGS | AU50 | \$2530. | |

Heritage Signature Auction #1281, November 8-11, Dallas. The auction had a larger selection of Liberty Seated coins than the other November auctions including an unusually high grade 1843-O dime even though it is "only" an XF45, one of the more dramatically repunched date half dollars, and several Carson City 1872 and 1873 half dollars (not listed below). This auction also included a circulated 1873-CC Trade dollar.

| | | | | | |
|---------|---------------|----------|------|----------|---------------------------|
| 1843-O | dime | NGC CAC | EF45 | \$3,360. | F-101 |
| 1873-CC | dime | NGC | G6 | \$2,400. | F-101 |
| 1850-O | quarter | PCGS | AU58 | \$1,320. | B-1A |
| 1846 | half dollar | PCGS CAC | MS63 | \$7,200. | 6/horizontal 6 WB-7 |
| 1849-O | half dollar | PCGS CAC | AU58 | \$1,560. | |
| 1857-S | half dollar | PCGS | XF40 | \$1,020. | |
| 1878-CC | half dollar | PCGS | G4 | \$1,020. | |
| 1872-S | Seated dollar | PCGS | G4 | \$576. | |
| 1873-CC | Trade dollar | PCGS CAC | XF40 | \$1,680. | |
| 1876-CC | Trade dollar | NGC | AU58 | \$1,920. | Type II reverse |
| 1876-CC | Trade dollar | PCGS | AU58 | \$5,760. | Double die reverse FS-801 |

The Regency Auction #29 (Legend Auctions), PCGS Members Only Show, November 15, San Antonio. Much like the Scotsman auction, this auction had a sparse selection of Liberty Seated coins. An MS64 1873-CC Trade dollar did not sell, but two better date Liberty Seated dollars did:

| | | | | | |
|------|---------------|----------|-------|-----------|--|
| 1840 | Seated dollar | PCGS CAC | MS63+ | \$24,675. | |
| 1855 | Seated dollar | PCGS | MS62 | \$14,687. | |



The Curious Collector

by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

Gold, Silver, and Liberty Seated Coinage (Part 2)



Last time we examined the various factors that led to gold being used as money from the time of antiquity. In this installment, let's look at America's adoption of gold and silver in the Mint Act of 1792. The action begins with the ratification of the Constitution in 1789, where article 1, section 8 tells us:

"The Congress shall have Power.....To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures."

Section 10 clarifies that this power is limited to Congress, and not to the states:

"No State shall ... coin Money; emit Bills of Credit; make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts....."

Clearly there is an intent that the federal government create a unified system of money, replacing the existing patchwork of state, federal, and foreign money circulating at the time. The addition of "weights and measures" is interesting. The metric system was

first formally discussed by an appointed group of French scientists in 1790, and it is likely that Thomas Jefferson (U.S. Minister to France, 1785-1789) was influenced by the move toward standardization. Likewise, it is thought that our first coin, the 1792 half "disme," acquired its weirdly spelled name as a result of this French influence, although there are no surviving documents explicitly supporting this idea. In any case, Jefferson became Secretary of State in 1790, and the U.S. Mint was placed by Washington under Jefferson's authority.

Two important documents guided the eventual Mint Act of 1792. Jefferson's *Report of the Secretary of State, on the Subject of Establishing a Uniformity in the Weights, Measures, and Coins of the United States* appeared in July 1790, while Alexander Hamilton's *Report on the Establishment of a Mint* was submitted to Congress in January 1791. Both documents agreed on key issues – decimalization of the money system, the dollar denom-

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ination, and a bimetallic standard with the value of gold and silver fixed to a legislated ratio. The congressional discussion culminated with the 1792 Mint Act, signed on April 2 by Washington. With respect to precious metals, the Act specified two key provisions:

- "...the proportional value of gold to silver in all coins which shall by law be current as money within the United States, shall be as fifteen to one..."
- "...all the gold and silver coins which have been struck at, and issued from the said mint, shall be a lawful tender in all payments whatsoever..."

Note how copper was excluded as legal tender. This prevented you from paying taxes with a bucketful of copper coins – only silver and gold were acceptable. The first clause, fixing the ratio of gold to silver, was more impactful. And, in modern parlance, it was a “fail” on the part of our Founding Fathers. Of course, we have over 200 years of hindsight, so we ought not to judge them too harshly. They did not foresee how gold and silver supply would widely vary over time, particularly with the California gold rush of the 1850s and subsequent discoveries of western silver in the 1870s. Both greatly affected Liberty Seated coinage, impacts we will examine more closely next time.

LSCC Calendar

November 9, 2018. *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #133 was published and mailed to all current members.

Included with this issue was a one page dues renewal form, Ahwash Literary Award Ballot, and LSCC Officer Election Ballot. Please return that last form per the instructions.

January 1, 2019. LSCC annual **dues payments** due to the LSCC Secretary-Treasurer.

January 9-12, 2019. **LSCC regional meeting, table, and educational programs.** Orlando, FL,

Orange County Convention Center. There will be a club table on the bourse floor and the regional meeting is January 11, 2019, Friday morning at 11 AM. There will be two FUN educational programs on Liberty Seated coinage: *The Economics of Liberty Seated Coinage*, by Len Augsburger, Friday January 11th, 11:15 AM and *Exploring Liberty Seated Half Dollars*, by Gerry Fortin, Saturday January 12th, 1:15 PM.

January 18-19, 2019. **LSCC club table and educational program.** Conroe, TX.

Houston Money Show, Lone Star Convention Center. Check club website for exact details.

January 31-February 2, 2019. **LSCC table, LSCC-BCCS social dinner.** Long Beach, CA.

Long Beach Expo, Long Beach Convention Center. Check club website for exact details.

February 1-2, 2019. **LSCC table and educational program.** Knoxville, TN.

Rothchild Conference Center. Check club website for exact details.

February 1, 2019. Deadline for submission of articles and advertisements for *Gobrecht Journal* Issue

#134.

February 28-March 2019. **LSCC SeatedFest II, many exhibit tables, regional meeting, and**

educational programs. Baltimore, MD. Whitman Baltimore Expo, Baltimore Inner Harbor Convention Center. See article on pages 2-3 of this issue and stay turned to the club's website for exact details.

All dates: see the LSCC website (www.lsccweb.org) for additional events and details.



Quarter of the Month

by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

The 1844-O with Reverse of 1843-O Large O Quarter Dollar

One of the most frustrating, and presently still unfinished, die studies I have ever attempted is that of the 1844-O Liberty Seated quarter dollar. The die states and combinations are complex, the average grade of available examples is low, and most have problems of some sort. The issue does not come nice and few survive with much originality. What the issue does have is one of the most interesting varieties in the Liberty Seated Quarter series: the 1844-O with Reverse of 1843-O Large O.

Quarters of the With-drapery type minted in New Orleans from 1840 -1843 were minted with a small O mintmark, with the exception of the very rare 1840 With-drapery Large O variety and the 1843-O Large O. The 1843-O Large O was minted near the end of 1843 and represented a more-or-less permanent move away

from the small O mintmark on subsequent coins. It is a very simple matter to attribute the 1843-O Large O variety because the mintmark size is dramatically different than those on the other five 1843-O die marriages. The 1844-O minted using the same reverse die as the 1843-O Large O is far more difficult to attribute because all 1844-O quarters have large mintmarks.

The 1844-O with Reverse of 1843-O Large O variety was discovered by LSCC member Ray Lathrop (*Gobrecht Journal* Issue #64; Collective Volume 5 page 380), after publication of Larry Briggs' Comprehensive *Encyclopedia of United States Liberty Seated Quarters*. In addition to being many times rarer than the 1843-O Large O, the 1844-O also has an even lower average grade. It is

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Figure 1. 1844-O with Reverse of 1843-O Large O quarter dollar with prominent obverse die scratches.



Figure 2. 1844-O with Reverse of 1843-O Large O quarter dollar with prominent raised die rust lumps.



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included in the Top 25 Variety Set. In the most recent survey published in 2013, LSCC members reported owning 26 examples of which only 4 were certified and having an average grade of 13.7; giving it the lowest average condition of all the coins in the survey. The two finest known examples are a cleaned example with XF40 details and a slabbed PCGS VF35.

The 1844-O with Reverse of 1843-O Large O comes in both coin and medal turn (i.e. 180 degree die rotation) and exhibits quite heavy reverse die cracks in later die states. The variety with die rotation appears to be the more common of the two, but this is very likely due to the relative ease of attribution in comparison to the variety without die rotation. Those familiar with the die characteristics seem to encounter the two types in about equal numbers. Similarly rotated coins were produced by the New Orleans mint during this period, including the 1844-O half dime, 1842-O half dollar, and 1839-O quarter eagle, all of which were coined with dies in both coin turn and medal turn positions.



Figure 3. 1844-O with Reverse of 1843-O Large O quarter dollar with medal (rotated) alignment and with the first die crack highlighted and labeled.

The obverse of the 1844-O die pairing has very prominent die scratches between the dentils and stars 12 and 13 (Figure 1). The reverse is notable for the heavy raised die rust lumps (Figure 2), the mintmark embedded in the crotch, and heavy cracks in the later die states. There is a fairly clear progression of the die cracks that becomes apparent when studying multiple examples with and without rotation. Early die states are not rotated and may not have cracks. Figure 3 shows the reverse die when paired with the 1844-O obverse with medal (rotated) alignment; with the first die crack highlighted and labeled. This crack is seen on some examples of the 1844-O with coin alignment (i.e. prior to medal alignment coins being struck). Figure 4 shows the same coin as Figure 3 with both die cracks highlighted. All known specimens with medal alignment have both die cracks.



Figure 4. 1844-O with Reverse of 1843-O Large O quarter dollar with medal (rotated) alignment and with both die cracks highlighted.



Regional News

by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

Congratulations to Bill Bugert and all the authors involved with the *Gobrecht Journal* for being awarded the 2018 Numismatic Literary Guild's "Best Club or Nonprofit Numismatic Periodical."

Manchester Coin Expo write-up by John Frost: **November 9-10, 2018 found us in Manchester NH for the fall New Hampshire Coin and Currency Expo. Show promoter Ernie Botte outdid himself this time, by supplying us with the table space, cases, and classroom to allow us to display the entire William and Charles Barber exhibit one final time before the artifacts start being returned to the family. Our meeting featured the educational program, a repeat of the presentation on William and Charles Barber that I had given at the ANA Money Talks session in Philadelphia.**

Attendance at the show was excellent both days, and NE Regional Director John Casazza, LSCC member Mark Archambault, and I were busy most of the time we were at the booth. At this show, the display was linear, 12 cases, so usually one of us would begin at one end and another of us at the other end, and we would walk our visitors down the row explaining the exhibit and crossing each other somewhere in the middle. Interest was high, and many were blown away by what they saw.

E r n i e (show at right in beard with John Frost) does an excellent job with this show. It is well organized, and publicity is excellent. The website



highlighted the exhibit a full two months in advance of the show. Nobody works harder, and the clubs certainly thank Ernie for all the support over the years. We are already looking forward to the spring show. (Thanks for the help Mark – D. Fortier)

"SeatedFeast" was a fun time with several interesting items brought for attendees to enjoy: Liberty Seated Dollar Exonumia, a Scott Restrike, a unique Liberty Seated print block, and an 1878-S Half Dollar to name a few. Attendance was small but encouraging. The food was excellent and enjoyed by all. Perhaps a future event can be planned.

Plans for the Fun Winter Show 2019 are underway on January 10-13. Len Augsburger and Gerry Fortin will be giving a lecture at FUN. Complete details will be in next month's *E-Gobrecht*. John Frost will have club shirts available at the show.

Last month saw a sharp up-turn in new member sign-ups. I think it can be safely assumed that the increase was at least in part the result of John Frost's work (articles and exhibits) on the father and son Barber engravers. John's efforts have certainly shined a light on the club's research.

The club's current membership is up to 670! While the educational component is a driving factor, it is without question the Regional outreach and social interaction that keeps members involved and motivated.

The entire leadership team works very hard (it is all volunteer please remember) to retain members. So please send in your membership renewal early. If you intend to drop your membership, please contact someone on the leadership team and save these dedicated volunteers additional effort in reminding you to pay your membership dues. Courtesy goes a long way.



Club Activity Images

by Dennis Fortier and John Frost



New Hampshire Coin Expo Barber Exhibit, November 2018



New Hampshire Coin Expo Barber Exhibit, November 2018



SeatedFeast, November 2018



Working the tables makes me hungry!



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Larry Briggs Rare Coins. New updated website with many photos—check us out at: www.larrybriggsrarecoins.com

Dr. Eugene Bruder is constantly updating his website, www.typecoins.com, which features a nice selection of bust and seated material for sale. You can reach him at 402-475-0350 or email at: gene@typecoins.com.

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Rotated Reverse Seated Dimes Wanted. I am looking for rotated reverse Liberty Seated dimes. Any interested parties can email Jason Feldman at jason@seated.org

Brian Greer, well known dealer, collector, and numismatist, has an extensive listing of many new dates and varieties listed on his website. Check them out at: <http://www.briangreerrarecoins.com/>.

Liberty Seated Dime Die Varieties Wanted. I am paying high prices for Seated Dimes with major cuds, die cracks, and rotated reverses. Contact David Thomas at

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Wanted to Buy, Liberty Seated Quarters for my personal collection. Prefer choice, original examples with attractive natural color and surfaces. Please feel free to offer me any coins and I will respond promptly. Doug Winter LSCC #10. Email address dwn@ont.com.

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Wanted to Buy. Collector of Liberty Seated Dollars wants engraved and/or counter-stamped (love tokens) or rotated reverses. All mints, any condition, holed OK. Carl Feldman: carlscoins@gmail.com or (973) 479-9956.



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LSCC Mission

To encourage, promote, and dispense numismatic knowledge of the Liberty Seated coins; to cultivate fraternal relations among its members and all those interested in the science of numismatics.

LSCC website: www.lsccweb.org

LSCC email address: lscc@lsccweb.org

LSCC Membership Information. Dues are bargain priced at \$25 per year and include three issues of the *Gobrecht Journal*, an award winning numismatic publication. To join the Liberty Seated Collectors Club, for *Gobrecht Journal*/mailing address changes, or for other membership questions, correspond with the LSCC Secretary/Treasurer.

Articles, comments, or advertisements for publication in the *Gobrecht Journal* may be addressed to the LSCC Publications Editor.

Information, input, comments, or suggestions for improvements to this *E-Gobrecht* are actively solicited from anyone and may be sent to the LSCC Publications Editor.

To be added or removed from the *E-Gobrecht* mailing list, send an email message with the words "Subscribe/Unsubscribe" in the subject line of the message to: wb8cpy@earthlink.net.

Wanted: Material for this newsletter!

Please consider submitting something for print. It need not be elaborate; it can be something as simple as a short note on your favorite variety, neat find, nice cherry pick, happenings at a coin show, rare Liberty Seated coinage coming up for auction, etc. If you are interested in it, rest assured, others will be too! Sharing information is a goal of this newsletter and you need not be an experienced or famous writer to submit something. This is a continuing plea.

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